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MISSISSIPPI AMMO PLANT TOUR HIGHLIGHTS PPTF MEETING

A success of the U.S. Army's Armament Retooling and Manufacturing Support (ARMS) Program was displayed during the recent meeting of the Public/ Private Task Force (PPTF). This group of top Government ARMS managers, Private Sector Defense Contractors and Subject Matter Experts meets periodically to review the activity of the ARMS Program at ten Army ammunition Plants (AAPs) located throughout the United States and to discuss continued implementation and direction of the ARMS Program.



Participants of the most recent PPTF Meeting were given a windshield tour of the MiSAAP Facility, which included the Boeing Facility.

The three-day PPTF meeting took place in Gulfport, Mississippi during 27-29 March 2001 amidst the smells of hearty Cajun cooking, the company of well-known and new friends and the gracious hospitality of the Mason Technologies team at Mississippi AAP (MiSAAP). The highlight of this 22nd PPTF conference was a tour of MiSAAP. More than 80 meeting attendees were invited to tour the MiSAAP facility and were hosted to a luncheon smorgasbord of traditional Cajun food. Visitors enjoyed a "Bon Appetit" lunch prepared and served by Schaeffer's at Stennis, one of the site's tenants who offers cafeteria and catering services. Schaeffer's has won regional acclaim for its cuisine.

The 4,300 acre MiSAAP complex is strategically located on the Mississippi Sound and Lake Pontchartrain between the cities of New Orleans and Mobile, AL and is one of the most accessible seaport areas on the Gulf of Mexico.

As with most ARMS locations, MiSAAP offers businesses a prime location, excellent infrastructure, flexible space and access to a quality workforce. Notable businesses such as The Boeing Company, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mason Technologies Inc., Power Dynamics Inc. and many others are tenants at the MiSAAP facility.

Since being placed on an "inactive status" in February 1990, MiSAAP has made great strides in developing innovative sources of tenant income to support the maintenance of the facility. It is the newest of the Army's Government-Owned Contractor-Operated (GOCO) ammunition plants and was the first to sign an ARMS facility use agreement in March 1992. MiSAAP's mission is to support Army replenishment requirements for grenade production while minimizing the cost of maintaining the plant in inactive status through the reutilization of plant and equipment.

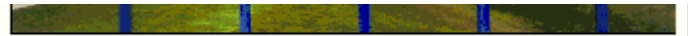
As briefed by Mr. Tommy Baucum, Vice President and General Manager for Mason Technologies, Inc., operating contractor for the site, MiSAAP has demonstrated extraordinary success in its efforts to reduce the cost of ownership by developing new commercial opportunities on site, so much so that MiSAAP today has nearly zeroed its cost to the Army. Should that occur by the end of the year, MiSAAP will become the fourth Army plant to achieve that status.

"The critical factor enabling our success in facility reutilization at MiSAAP is the ARMS Program," said Baucum. It was due in large measure to ARMS that MiSAAP was able to attract Boeing North America, Inc. to the site. Three years ago, the aerospace giant signed an agreement to assemble RS-68 expendable rocket motors for its Delta IV booster at the inactive ammunition plant.

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the Gulf of Mexico.



The facility entrance sign welcoming visitors also lists the site tenants.